Numb. 170

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

Fortuna ſævo læta negotio,
Et Ludum inſolentem ludere pertinax,
Tranſmutat incertos Honores,
Nunc mihi, nunc alii, benigna. Hor.

From *Tueſday May* 9. to *Thurſday May* 11. 1710.

From my own Apartment, May 10.

HAVING this Morning ſpent ſome Time in Reading on the Subject of the Viciſſitude of Human Life, I laid aſide my Book, and began to ruminate on the Diſcourſe which raiſed in me thoſe Reflexions. I believed it a very good Office to the World, to ſit down and ſhow others the Road in which I am experienced by my Wanderings and Errors. This is *Seneca*'s Way of Thinking; and he had half convinced me, how dangerous it is to our true Happineſs and Tranquility to fix our Minds upon any Thing which is in the Power of Fortune. It is excuſable only in Animals who have not the Uſe of Reaſon to be catched by Hooks and Baits. Wealth, Glory, and Power, which the ordinary People look up at with Admiration, the learned and wiſe know to be only ſo many Snares laid to inſnare them. There is nothing further to be ſought for with Earneſtneſs, than what will cloath and feed us. If we pamper our ſelves in our Diet, or give our Imaginations a Looſe in our Deſires, the Body will no longer obey the Mind. Let us think no further, than to defend our ſelves againſt Hunger, Thirſt, and Cold. We are to remember, that every Thing elſe is deſpicable, and not worth our Care. To want little is true Grandeur, and very few Things are great to a great Mind. Thoſe who form their Thoughts in this Manner, and abraſtct themſelves from the World, are out of the Way of Fortune, and can look with Contempt both on her Favours and her Frowns. At the ſame Time, they who ſeparate themſelves from the immediate Commerce with the buſy Part of Mankind, are ſtill beneficial to them, while by their Studies and Writings they recommend to them the ſmall Value which ought to be put upon what they purſue with ſo much Labour and Diſquiet. While ſuch Men are thought the moſt idle, they are the moſt uſefully employed: They have all Things both Human and Divine under Conſideration. To be perfectly free from the Inſults of Fortune, we ſhould arm our ſelves with their Reflexions. We ſhould learn, that none but intellectual Poſſeſſions are what we can properly call our own. All Things from without are but borrowed. What Fortune gives us, is not ours; and whatever ſhe gives us, ſhe can take away.

It is a common Imputation to *Seneca*, that tho' he declaimed with ſo much Strength of Reaſon, and a Stoical Contempt of Riches and Power, he was at the ſame Time one of the richeſt and moſt powerful Men in *Rome*. I know no Inſtance of his being inſolent in that Fortune, and can therefore read his Thoughts on thoſe Subjects with the more Deference. I will not give Philoſophy ſo poor a Look as to ſay it cannot live in Courts; but I am of Opinion, that it is there in the greateſt Eminence, when, amidſt the Affluence of All the World can beſtow, and the Addreſſes of a Crowd who follow him for that Reaſon, a Man can think both of himſelf and thoſe about him abſtracted from theſe Circumſtances. Such a Philoſopher is as much above an Anchorite, as a wiſe Matron, who paſſes through the World with Innocence, is preferable to the Nun who locks her ſelf up from it.

Full of theſe Thoughts I left my Lodgings, and took a Walk to the Court-End of the Town; and the Hurry and buſy Faces I met with about *Whitehall*, made me form to my ſelf Idea's of the different Proſpects of all I ſaw, from the Turn and Caſt of their Countenances. All methought had the ſame Thing in View, but proſecuted their Hopes with a different Air; ſome ſhowed an unbecoming Eagerneſs; ſome a ſurly Impatience; ſome a winning Deference; but the Generality, a ſervile Complaiſance.

I could not but obſerve, as I roved about the Offices, that all who were ſtill but in Expectation, murmured at Fortune; and all who had obtained their Wiſhes, immediately began to ſay, there was no ſuch Being. Each believed it an Act of blind Chance, that any other Man was preferred but owed only to Service and Merit what he had obtained himſelf. It is the Fault of ſtudious Men to appear in Publick with too contemplative a Carriage; and I began to obſerve, that my Figure, Age, and Dreſs, made me particular; for which Reaſon I thought it better to remove a ſtudious Countenance from among buſy Ones, and take a Turn with a Friend in the *Privy-Garden*.

When

When my Friend was alone with me there, *Isaac*, said he, I know you come Abroad only to moralize and make Obſervations, and I will carry you hard by, where you ſhall ſee all that you have your ſelf conſidered or read in Authors, or collected from Experience, concerning blind Fortune, and irreſiſtible Deſtiny, illuſtrated in real Perſons and proper Mechaniſms. The Graces, the Muſes, the Fates, all the Beings which have a good or ill Influence upon Human Life, are, you'll ſay, very juſtly figured in the Perſons of Women; and where I am carrying you, you'll ſee enough of that Sex together, in an Employment which will have ſo important an Effect upon thoſe who are to receive their Manufacture, as will make them be reſpectively called Deities or Furies, as their Labour ſhall prove diſadvantagious or ſucceſsful to their Votaries. Without waiting for my Anſwer, he carried me to an Apartment contiguous to the *Banqueting-Houſe*, where there were placed at Two long Tables a large Company of young Women, in decent and agreeable Habits, making up Tickets for the Lottery appointed by the Government. There walked between the Tables a Perſon who preſided over their Work. This Gentlewoman ſeemed an Emblem of Fortune. She commanded as if unconcerned in their Buſineſs; and tho' every thing was performed by her Direction, ſhe did not viſibly interpoſe in Particulars. She ſeemed in Pain at our near Approach to her, and moſt to approve us when we made her no Advances. Her Height, her Mein, her Geſture, her Shape, and her Countenance, had ſomething that ſpoke both Familiarity and Dignity. She therefore appeared to me not only a Picture of Fortune, but of Fortune as I liked her, which made me break out in the following Words:

MADAM,

'I Am very glad to ſee the Fate of the many who 'now languiſh in Expectation of what will be 'the Event of your Labours, in the Hands of one 'who can act with ſo impartial an Indifference. 'Pardon me that have often ſeen you before, and 'have loſt you for want of the Reſpect due to you. 'Let me beg of you, who have both the furniſhing 'and the turning of that Wheel of Lots, to be 'unlike the reſt of your Sex: Repulſe the Forward 'and the Bold and favour the Modeſt and the 'Humble. I know you fly the Importunate, but 'ſmile no more on the Careleſs. Add not to the 'Coffers of the Uſurer, but give the Power of Beſtowing to the Generous. Continue his Wants 'who cannot enjoy or communicate Plenty, but 'turn away his Poverty who can bear it with more 'Eaſe than he can ſee it in Another.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Whereas Philander *ſignified to* Clarinda *by Letter bearing Date* Thurſday 12 *a Clock, That he had loſt his Heart by a Shot from her Eyes, and deſired ſhe would condeſcend to meet him the ſame Day at Eight in the Evening at* Rolamond's *Pond, faithfully proteſting, that in caſe ſhe would not do him that Honour, ſhe might ſee the Body of the ſaid* Philander *the next Day floating on the ſaid Lake of Love; and that he deſired only Three Sighs upon View of his ſaid Body. It is deſired, if he has not made away with himſelf accordingly, that he would forthwith ſhow himſelf to the Coroner of the City of* Weſtminſter; *or* Clarinda, *being an old Offender, will be found guilty of wilful Murder.*

Advertiſements.

AT the Deſire of ſeveral Ladies of Quality, Caius Marius. To which is added, a new Farce, call'd, The Blundering Brothers, or the Twin Adventures; which were to have been acted this Day, are put off till Wedneſday the 17th, when the Tickets delivered out for the 11th will be received. And Box Tickets may be had at Charles Lillie's at the Corner of Beauford-Buildings only.

*** There is juſt publiſhed, Bibliotheca Anatomica, Medica, &c. containing a Deſcription of the ſeveral Parts of the Body: Each done by ſome one or more Eminent Phyſician or Chirurgeon; with their Diſeaſes and Cures. Illuſtrated with ſeveral Hundred Figures, done by the beſt Artiſts, and from the trueſt Deſigns, as appears by the Names to each Figure. This 6th for April contains Kerkeringius of the Generation of the Bones in the Fœtus, with Two large Plates, repreſenting the Bones of the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th Months, very near as big as the Life. Dom. Gagliard, Phyſician at Rome, his Anatomy of the Bones, &c. Printed by John Nutt in the Savoy, and ſold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Where may be had the preceding Months. Alſo Atlas Geographus for March, and compleat Sets of them.

*** Barcelona: A Poem. Or, The Spaniſh Expedition, under the Command of Charles E. of Peterborough, until the Reduction of the City of Barcelona to the Obedience of Charles III. King of Spain. By George Farquhar Gent. the Author of the Trip to the Jubilee, the Recruiting Officer, and the Stratagem. Printed for J. Smith at the Poſt-Houſe in Ruſſel-ſtreet, Covent-Garden, and R. Standfaſt in Weſtminſter-Hall; and ſold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall.

*** New Muſick juſt publiſh'd, Six Engliſh Cantata's for a Voice and Inſtruments; compoſed by Mr. J. C. Pepuſch. Note, This is the firſt Collection of this kind; the whole being corrected by the Author, and engraven in a fair Character. Alſo Mr. Pepuſch's Airs for Two Violins: The ſame for Two Flutes: A Second Collection of Six Solo's for a Flute and a Baſs, by the ſame Author: All the Airs and Song-Tunes in the Opera of Almahide for a ſingle Flute: And a Collection of Rigadoons, Minuets, and all the new French Dances for a ſingle Flute, being the firſt of that kind publiſhed. Printed for J. Walſh, Servant in Ordinary to Her Majeſty, and P. Randall, at the Harp and Hautboy in Katherine-ſtreet near Somerſet-Houſe in the Strand; and J. Hare at the Viol and Flute in Cornhil near the Royal Exchange.

*** A Companion to the Altar; ſhewing the Nature and Neceſſity of a Sacramental Preparation, in order to our worthy receiving the Holy Communion: Wherein thoſe Fears and Scruples about Eating and Drinking unworthily, and of incurring our own Damnation thereby, are proved groundleſs and unwarrantable. Unto which are added, Prayers and Meditations preparative to a Sacramental Preparation, according to what the Church of England requires from her Communicants. The Sixth Edition. Printed for Edm. Parker at the Bible and Crown in Lombard-ſtreet near Stocks-market. Price bound 6 d. ſtitch'd 4 d. or 25 s. per Hundred. This ſame Book is bound up with the Common-Prayers of ſeveral Sorts, and is to be had at the Place aboveſaid.

*** This Day is publiſh'd, Some Conſiderations humbly offered in a Letter to John Lord Biſhop of Ely, on a Book, entituled, The preſent State of Trinity College in Cambridge. By Dr. Bentley. By a Maſter of Arts, and Fellow of the ſaid College. Printed for J. Morphew near Stationers-hall. Pr. 4 d.

MRs. Slocombe, in Fiſhers-ſtreet near the Flower-de-Luce, will draw her Sale of Embroidered Goods on the 18th Inſtant. Note, it's to be drawn at the Blue Boar, a Dancing School, in Eagle-ſtreet, beginning at Nine a Clock.

FOR Sale by the Candle, to Morrow the 12th Inſtant, at Loyd's Coffee-houſe in Lombard-ſtreet, at 6 a Clock in the Afternoon preciſely (only one Cask in a Lot) 35 Buts and 7 Hds. of new Mountain (dry) Malaga Wine, extraordinary good, neat, an entire Parcel, imported by the Martha Brigantine, Nath. Pigram Maſter, landed the 6th Inſtant, now in a Cellar in the Alley on Cox-Key, between London-bridge and Billingſgate. Alſo 12 Pipes of good old Red Wine, in a Vault (over-againſt the Back Gate of the Eaſt-India-Houſe) in Lymeſtreet. All the aforeſaid Wines are to be ſeen this Day from 7 to 12 Clock, and from 2 to 7, and all Day to Morrow, till the Hour of Sale. To be ſold by Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in Crutched-Fryars.

I Tho. Adin, Weaver, living in King's-Head-yard, Shoreditch, declare, That I had a Cough and Conſumption, and received a perfect Cure, by the Bleſſing of God, and the Uſe of the Medecines of Mr. J. Moore, Apothecary, at the Peſtle and Mortar in Abchurch-lane, London; and, I deſire for the Good of others under the ſame Diſtemper, that this Cure may be made publick. Witneſs my Hand, April 17. 1710. T. Adin.

AT Mr. Metcalf's, Bookſeller, in Drury-lane, is to be had, an admirable Remedy for the Cure of Agues, with an Account of ſeveral Cures, of which authentick Certificates may be ſeen from Perſons, whoſe Agues before the Tryal of this Remedy, had eluded the Skill of ſeveral Phyſicians, baffled the Jeſuits Powder, and moſt other Remedies. Alſo the Rheum Plaiſter, that anſwers the End of a Bliſter without making any. Price 2 s.

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where Advertiſements are taken in.